

**From:** Wendy Bringas <WendyB@baptisthealth.net> on behalf of Bo Boulenger <BoB@baptisthealth.net>

**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6:33 PM

**To:** DG-BHSF Everyone <DG-BHSFEveryone@baptisthealth.net>, DG-BT Everyone Automated <DG-BTEveryoneAutomated@baptisthealth.net>, BRRH Everyone <BRRHEveryone@brrh.com>, BRRH-BocaCare All <BocaCareAll@brrh.com>

**Subject:** COVID-19 Update- January 14, 2021

Dear Baptist Health Family,

We are experiencing the long-predicted post-holiday surge of COVID-19 cases, and we are also very busy taking care of a high volume of patients across the system who need us for matters that are not related to COVID-19.

### **This Week's Numbers at a Glance**

- Currently, there are **475** individuals throughout our facilities who are COVID-19 positive or suspected to be positive. That's an increase of about 6% over last week, and 13% from two weeks ago.
- This week, we surpassed **10,000** discharges of patients with COVID-19.
- As of today, we have vaccinated more than **20,000** people including eligible employees, medical staff and eligible members of our community.

We could not have imagined these numbers a year ago, as we had never faced a situation like this before. I am very proud of the incredible work we are doing to help people heal, and of this team's herculean effort to launch, manage and support the COVID-19 vaccination process.

As we continue to grow our vaccination program, our priority will always be our frontline healthcare personnel and medical staff. We are currently vaccinating approximately 2,000 people every day across our organization, and we are quickly expanding. Below is an update on our efforts:

### **Baptist Health Employee Vaccinations**

Since the milestone moment on December 16, 2020, when we began administering vaccinations to our frontline workers at highest risk, we have provided approximately 11,000 COVID-19 vaccines to protect our eligible employees and medical staff. By the end of next week, we expect that all employees who are eligible to receive the vaccine during phase 1 and wanted to receive it will have been scheduled to do so. At any time, employees who meet criteria for phase 1 and have not yet received a shot will be able to request one, and you will be prioritized. If you would like to receive the vaccine and meet the criteria of those currently being vaccinated, please notify your leader to help schedule your vaccine appointment.

We currently have vaccination sites for our employees at the Hilton Miami Dadeland on the campus of Baptist Hospital, Boca Raton Regional Hospital, Bethesda Hospital East, Homestead Hospital, Mariners Hospital, Miami Cancer Institute and our Plantation location. As we move through our employee process, some of these sites may become more widely available to our community as well.

## Community Vaccinations

Last Friday, we launched an online appointment scheduling system for the community, and 13,013 appointments were booked for our first community vaccination site, the Hilton Miami Dadeland. The program was very well-received, with all appointments being booked within two hours. All of our current slots are filled and we are not taking any new appointments at this time. We are ramping up our efforts and will be opening additional vaccination opportunities for our community soon. As we receive additional vaccine supply and add community vaccination locations, more appointment times will become available. We are asking the community to check [www.baptisthealth.net/vaccine](http://www.baptisthealth.net/vaccine) regularly for updates. Please note and share with your friends and family that vaccination is by appointment only.

We are working tirelessly to vaccinate our eligible community members and continue to collaborate with government agencies, municipalities and our local universities to scale up our community distribution and lead this effort. Short term updates include:

- In Monroe County, we are working with the Monroe County Department of Health to expand access to the vaccine in the Florida Keys.
- In Doral, we're working with the city on setting up a vaccine distribution site in that community.
- In Plantation, we are vaccinating our patients, community physicians and their frontline healthcare staff at our new wellness and medical complex. Based on vaccine supply, we expect to offer additional vaccinations for the community at this location soon.

And, this is only the beginning. We are committed to vaccinating as many eligible people as possible across our service area, guided by our mission to care for our community.

Just as we've adapted to changing circumstances throughout this pandemic, we're in a new phase of mass vaccinations that requires everyone's continued support and energy. We're encouraged by the progress we are making every day. Thank you for your fantastic work and your ongoing commitment to our ever-important mission.

## Bo Boulenger

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